



2014 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

1. COMPETITION RULES: Current International Rugby Board (IRB) law book for seven-a-side play as amended by the Armed Forces Sports Committee (AFSC).
2. TOURNAMENT FORMAT: Single round robin, followed by consolation and championship matches.
3. DRAW: As determined by previous year's Armed Forces Championship standings.
4. SCORING: IAW current IRB law book.
5. DURATION OF MATCHES AND TIE-BREAKER POLICY:
 - a. Round Robin Matches: Played in two, 7-minute halves with a two minute halftime break.
 - b. Tie Breaking procedures, in order, following Round-Robin Play: Head-to-head record of teams involved; margin of points for and against all teams; margin of converted tries; total points: total tries: coin toss.
 - c. Consolation and Championship Matches: Played in 10-minute halves, with a 2-minute halftime break.
 - d. Tie-Breaker for Consolation and Championship Matches: After a 1-minute interval, play 5-minute overtime periods with teams changing ends after each overtime period, without an interval until first score determines winner.
 - e. Drawn Matches: Drawn matches in the Round Robin competition shall be declared a tie.
6. GAME BALL AND EQUIPMENT: IAW current USA Rugby Rules. Ball must adhere to current USA Rugby Rules. Ball to be used is to be publicized by the host service 60 days prior to the Armed Forces Championship. All footwear (boots), including those with alloy safety studs, must be in compliance with current USA Rugby Rules.
7. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
 - a. Day One Teams Arrive
 Team Practice Sessions (if teams are available)
 - b. Days Two Team Practice Sessions
 Organizational Meeting
 Opening Ceremony Walk-Through (one rep from each team)
 Team Check-In

Note: Authorized team members must attend Organizational Meeting and Team Check-In in their Service polo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear.

2014 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

c. Day Three	Games Begin
	1200 Opening Ceremony
	1220 Team Photos
	1245 Match 1
	1325 Match 2
	1420 Match 3
	1500 Match 4
	1555 Match 5
	1635 Match 6
	1730 Match 7
	1810 Match 8
	1905 Match 9
	1945 Match 10

d. Day Four

1030	Consolation Game
1130	Championship Game
1225	Team Awards Ceremony

All-Tournament Team selection meeting

Awards Ceremony - Authorized team members must attend the event in their Service polo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear (exceptions may be made dependant on host site letter of instruction). Individual athletes who do not comply will not receive awards, and if selected, will be removed from the Armed Forces team. Additional personnel or guests may only attend if pre-coordinated in advance with the host site through the Service Representative. Final decision will be based on availability. Additional personnel and/or guests will assume responsibility of costs to attend the Awards Ceremony.

e. Day Five Teams Depart

8. AWARDS:

a. Individual: Each member of the winning and runner-up teams (to include the coaches, team trainer and OIC-Team Manager) receive individual awards.

b. Team: No team trophy is presented.

c. All-Tournament: An "All-Tournament" team is selected of the best three (3) forwards and four (4) backs of the tournament. The Host Project Officer will select and purchase a special "All Star" memento to present to each member of the "All-Tournament" team.

9. TEAM COMPOSITION - ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONSHIP:

Roster not to exceed 16 individuals*

12 Players

1 Coach

1 Asst Coach

1 Certified Athletic Trainers

2014 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

1 OIC/Team Manager

TOTAL: 16

Note: Rosters must be submitted NLT four days prior to championship report date. Only the above personnel are authorized in the designated Service bench area.

If a player is ejected, that player is ineligible for the remaining matches of the championship and the overall roster is reduced by one. This player is now a non-participant, and cannot be on the sidelines, and will not be considered for the All-Tournament Team.

10. SELECTION PROCESS - HIGHER LEVEL AND ALL-TOURNAMENT:

a. Athlete Selection Process.

(1) The AFSWG members, or designated representatives, at the site of the Armed Forces Championship are responsible for the selection of the All-Tournament Team and the U.S. Armed Forces Team for higher-level competition (when applicable).

(2) Selection meeting attendance is limited to the Service Representative, and the Head and Assistant Coaches, and OIC's. Each Service is limited to one spokesperson. The host Service Representative shall chair the selection meeting.

(3) The initial selection for the All-Tournament Team and the Armed Forces Team shall be conducted as a paper ballot (appendix D), both submitted simultaneously by each Service Representative to the selection meeting chair at the beginning of the selection meeting. Submitted ballots are final. Ties shall be resolved through discussion and vote.

(4) Participants selected to the All-Tournament Team shall automatically be selected to the Armed Forces Team unless unavailable. The most competent athletes, regardless of Service affiliation, shall be selected to complete the final Armed Forces Team roster.

(5) When higher-level competition does not immediately follow the Armed Forces championship, based on non-availability, Services may elect to send up to three (3) additional athletes to the Armed Forces training camp.

b. Coach Selection Policy (if higher level competition is scheduled): The Head Coach for the Armed Forces Team shall be the winning Head Coach of the Armed Forces Championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the Championship). This coach shall select his/her Assistant Coach from the pool of coaches that participated in the championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the championship). If the winning Head Coach is not available, then the second place team Head Coach shall be the Head Coach of the Armed Forces team. This individual shall also select his-her Assistant Coach from the pool of coaches who participated in their respective Armed Forces Championship (subject to review by the Service Representatives at the Championship). If neither the winning nor second place Head Coaches are available to advance to higher level competition, the AFSWG shall vote to select a Head Coach from the remaining pool of available coaches who participated in the championship. Priority shall be given to Head Coaches. If replacement coaches cannot be identified within 24 hours preceding the announcement of the team delegation, then the Armed Forces team shall not advance to higher level competition.

2014 ARMED FORCES MEN'S RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

c. During the Athlete Selection Process, Service representatives shall reserve the right to not select top quality candidates based on behavior, grooming standards, or availability. The host Service will not make any additions or deletions to the selected Armed Forces Team without coordinating with the Working Group Member of the other three Services.

11. FORMS AND ROSTERS:

a. All final rosters must be turned in to the Host Project Officer at the Organizational Meeting. Rosters for the Armed Forces Championship will be finalized at this time. Failure to do so shall disqualify athletes from advancing to higher level competition.

b. All athletes and coaches shall complete and sign the Armed Forces Sports Higher Advancement Form (appendix B) for consideration of selection to the Armed Forces Team. All Higher Advancement Forms must be submitted by the Officer in Charge of the respective Service at or before the organizational meeting at the Armed Forces Championship.

c. All delegation members of the U.S. Armed Forces Team advancing must sign the Armed Forces Sports Participant Code of Conduct (appendix C) prior to the start of training camp or departure to higher level competition if a training camp is not conducted. Team Captains shall hold the signed code of conduct forms until the conclusion of the championship, or until all related actions of the championship are finalized.

d. Team Captains, Coaches and Chiefs of Mission shall sign their respective LOI (appendix F/H).

12. ALCOHOL POLICY: There will be no alcohol consumption at the sports venue by personnel involved in the Armed Forces Sports competition, including sports staff, until all competition for the day has been completed to include the award ceremony on the final day if the awards banquet immediately follows the event. The venue is defined as the playing area, venue parking lot, and the assigned eating/spectator area. This policy will not apply if the awards banquet or ceremony is conducted as a separate event at a later time. However, more restrictive installation policies in regards to alcohol will take precedence.

13. HANDLING OF RULE VIOLATIONS: If there is a violation of the SOP or specific sport rule, the AFS Representative or in their absence, the project officer, will address the respective Service Representative to resolve the issue. Service Representative will resolve the violation before the Service competes in the next game.

14. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: Service Branches are encouraged to bring their own medical personnel with them to the competition. An ambulance with Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) or Paramedics must be physically on site during all competition. Ambulances must be equipped with stretcher, spine board, and basic life support capabilities.